GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:11
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Higher Education System
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has noticed that India is the only (BRICS) nations without representation in the top hundred global universities;
(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to remove the mess in the higher education system in the country;
(c) if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the Government is taking any steps to provide cutting-edge education by both Indian and foreign universities in the country; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (c): Educational reforms and quality improvement measures are a constant endeavour of the Government and the UGC. Several reforms have been introduced in the higher education sector in the country, namely: (i) Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) (ii) mandatory accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) (iii) skilling through HEIs (iv) amending standards and qualifications in the higher education sector (v) providing enhanced funding through norm based schemes etc. Recognizing that there is no globally accepted ranking methodology of universities, the Government has launched the National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) from 2016 onwards for ranking institutions in order to incentivize and promote quality.
(d) & (e): The Government has approved a programme titled Global Initiative for Academic Networks (GIAN) in Higher Education aimed at tapping the talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs internationally to encourage their engagement with the institutes of Higher Education in India so as to augment the country's existing academic resources, accelerate the pace of quality reform, and elevate India's scientific and technological capacity to global excellence. GIAN is an evolving scheme which will initially include participation of foreign faculty in Institutes as Distinguished / Adjunct / Visiting faculty / Professors of Practice, etc., to participate in delivering Short or Semester-long Courses. The UGC has notified UGC (Promotion and maintenance of standards of academic collaboration between Indian and Foreign Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2016 in Gazette of India. This regulation will enable Indian Universities and Colleges to start twinning and collaborative arrangement with quality Foreign Educational Institutions (FEIs) in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes leading to the award of a degree.
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